

## REMOVAL OF LIBBY PRISON.

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A CHICAGO SYNDICATE TO TRANSPORT IT WESTWARD.

CHICAGO, Feb. 5.—A new departure in the line of relief work has been taken in this city. The preliminary steps for the formation of a relief committee, whose object is the purchase and removal to this city of the famous Libby prison of Richmond, Va., were taken here yesterday. The gentlemen who figure as the commissioners and who are instrumental in organizing and developing the scheme are: Messrs. William H. Gray, Josiah Cratty, John A. Crawford, and Charles K. Miller, all Chicago men. The company will have a capital of \$400,000, and it is under-

applied for. The history of the enterprise is best told in the words of Mr. Gray, to whom is due the credit of its inception. "On December 1, 1904," he writes, "I was traveling through eastern Virginia via Judge Moore, of Toledo, we went on to reach the Old Point Comfort and Richmond line, where a former associate of mine, who was in the Confederate army, was waiting to meet me. In the course of a conversation on the events of the war reference was made to the fact that the property of the Government had been abandoned, and it was suggested that it would be a good idea to purchase the building and transport it to Chicago. I then returned to Baltimore, and immediately asked him to ascertain if the property could be purchased. Shortly after my return I received a letter from Fanning's store, real estate agent, stating that the property of the old prison was now the property of the Southern Fertilizing Company and that it was for sale. I immediately telegraphed my quest. Mr. John A. Crawford, the general superintendent of the Chicago and Baltimore route, was then called upon. He looked over the ground, and investigated the possibility of moving the building. He found that it could be moved, and that it was a good idea to purchase it. Some further correspondence with the

obtaining for me an option for thirty days on the property. I have consulted with the architects, and they inform me it is a job that can be done. I will have the city and rebuild just as it now stands. We—that is, the company—propose to number every brick, stone, and shingle. The building will be taken down a few stones; the material will be moved and transported by rail to Chicago. We will carefully draw every nail that has not rusted away; we will bring up the mortar, and use it as far as possible in the new building. Every brick, stone, or shingle window will be set in place. The entire job will cost about \$300,000. We will surround it with another building 200 ft

"We will get a site that will be convenient to the center of the city and easy of access. We estimate that the cost will be decided in this way: For the building, \$25,000; for tearing down and boring, \$10,000; for the site, \$10,000; for reconstruction, \$15,000; for the site, \$50,000; including building, \$175,000.

"If we cannot buy the lot we want we will lease it. It's our intention to make an elaborate collection of relics of the rebellion. In fact, make a perfect museum. We will have panoramic views of the engagements from the Monitor and the Merrimack and other well known events of the war. This

to be used this month. We hope to get early possession of the store of arms and munitions ported in time for the republican National Convention next June. As soon after as possible we will complete the rebuilding of the remainder of the prison.

"I am informed that up to two years ago when the property came into the possession of the Southern Fertilizing Company, the Richmond authorities had kept a guard around to keep off the rebels. It would have torn it to pieces. I have been informed that some of the Richmond people may kick, but it will do them no good. I desire that the people of the South, especially Kentucky, one of the incorporators,

**A Free Interesting Lecture.**  
To-day a free lecture of unusual interest will be given at Masonic Temple, F and M. northwest. Those desiring a ready-spoken knowledge of the German language will be delighted with the lecture, which elucidates

Dr. R. B. Gilbert, professor in Louisiana, University, writes of this "teacher's success": "I have worked here and have acquired a practical knowledge of the language and can converse freely with Germans on almost every subject. Graduates of our high school cannot do this after three years' course by the old method."

**Revenue Cutters in Collision.**  
FAIRBORTH, Mass., Feb. 5.—The United States revenue cutter Albert Gallatin collided with the revenue cutter Dexter in Wood's Hole harbor this afternoon. The Gallatin had been down the sound and on her return struck the Dexter.

**PERSONALITIES.**

terday, aged 68.  
 MAJ. A. C. HANCOCK, 11th artillery, is staying at the Elbott House.  
 Mrs. C. E. GANNETT, Mr. J. M. Randall, and Miss Randall are at the Arlington.  
 REV. FRANCIS A. PIERCE, of Cambridge, Mass., is stopping at the Arlington.  
 COL. JOHN H. GEORGE, a leading Democratic politician of Concord, N. H., died yesterday.  
 JAMES H. CAMPBELL, proprietor of the May-

MR. AND MRS. A. E. CONOVER and the Miss Conover, of New York, are registered at Wards.

Mr. GEORGE M. PELLER, of Chicago, registered at the Arlington yesterday. He left New York last night.

S. PATTERSON, of Lynchburg, Va., and Smith, of Staunton, Va., were registered at the St. James Hotel yesterday.

W. W. CONVERSE, of New Orleans; W. Converse, of Boston, and A. W. Graham, Hillsboro, N. C., are recent arrivals at the M. J. James Hotel.

MA. CHARLES FRUSH, formerly a clerk in the Interior Department, and for the past six years deputy United States marshal for Oregon, has arrived in the city, and is stopping at the Belvidere.

ROMAINE DILLON, brother of Sidney Dillon,

Saturday. He was very wealthy and eccentric. He has served time in an asylum for about a man thirteen years ago.